



# AMERICAN OBSERVER

News and Issues—With Pros and Cons

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## Here and Abroad

People—Places—Events

### NEW TELEPHONE CABLE

France and West Germany have signed an agreement with an American company for the laying of a new underwater telephone cable between Europe and the United States. The \$40,000,000 cable, expected to be ready for use in late 1959, will carry 36 conversations simultaneously.

### WAR ON MALARIA

Venezuela is leading Latin American nations in the fight to wipe out malaria. More than 80 per cent of all Venezuelans are protected from the disease, which now occurs in only a few isolated areas of the nation. Despite well-organized efforts to wipe out malaria, an estimated 8,000,000 cases still occur in the Western Hemisphere each year.

### INDONESIA WITHDRAWS

Indonesian troops are withdrawing from the United Nations Emergency Force stationed in the Middle East. The troops have completed 6 months of voluntary duty, and Indonesia has told the UN that she cannot replace them. Indonesia is the first to withdraw her soldiers from the 10-nation force. It was set up to supervise the cease-fire that ended fighting between British-French-Israeli and Egyptian forces last year.

### MAGSAYSAY STAMP

On August 31, the U. S. Post Office Department will issue a special stamp honoring Ramon Magsaysay, the Philippine president who died in a plane crash last March. The issue is the first in a series of "Champions of Liberty" stamps. Not more than 1 stamp will be issued in the series each year.

### RADIOACTIVITY TEST

The U. S. Atomic Energy Commission hopes to study the effects of fallout from atomic-hydrogen explosions on South America's food supply. Under a proposed program, samples of food collected in South America would be sent to New York for tests to determine the amount of radioactivity contained in them.

### COLORADO LAND RUSH

Colorado is now the scene of a land rush similar to that of the California "gold rush" days. A 98,000-acre tract of Colorado land was opened to uranium prospectors recently. The uranium hunters are using jeeps and helicopters instead of burros, which were popular with earlier gold-seekers.

### KOREAN ALPHABET

Publication of a new dictionary has given South Korea one of the world's most modern and simple alphabets. It consists of 24 letters, 10 vowels, and 14 consonants. The old Korean alphabet was made up of thousands of symbols.



VIRUS being processed into polio vaccine in a large American drug plant

## Polio Fighters Winning

Vaccine Effective in Greatly Reducing Cases in the U. S.  
Disease Not Yet Defeated on World-Wide Basis

**V**ICTORY seems in sight in man's fight to control one of the most-feared and baffling diseases—poliomyelitis. At a recent International Poliomyelitis Congress held in Geneva, Switzerland, scientists from 50 nations agreed that the Salk polio vaccine is safe and effective.

Unfortunately, the Congress also heard reports indicating that—on a world-wide basis—polio is on the increase. Even in the United States, victory is not complete, since millions have not yet had vaccinations. On the whole, though, U. S. polio fighters are confident that they are winning their battle. Their hope is to end polio danger in the United States during 1958.

Using the Salk vaccine as its weapon, the anti-polio army in our country has won spectacular victories since April 1955, when the vaccine was first released. Some 68,000,000 persons have received one or more shots, and 20,000,000 of these have received the full series of 3 injections.

*What are the results of use of the vaccine?*

The U. S. Public Health Service reported this July: *Of the 20,000,000 persons who got all 3 Salk injections, only 42 contracted paralytic polio, and only 2 of the 42 died. In the same period, 7,300 cases of paralytic polio and 600 deaths were reported among people who had not had the 3 Salk injections.*

In the United States, the number of polio cases has dropped sharply as the vaccination program has gone on. During the first 27 weeks of this year, 1,557 new cases were recorded. The total is approximately half the 2,927 cases reported for the 27-week period last year, and compares with an average of 4,294 cases for similar periods during the last 5 years.

At the recent polio congress in Geneva, scientists from numerous countries reported that they were following the basic Salk techniques in manufacturing their own serums. In addition to the United States, Canada, Denmark, Australia, and Israel have used the vaccine widely. Denmark reported that 99 per cent of her children up to age 10 have been vaccinated, and that there have been only a few polio cases in the country so far this year. Australia reported virtually no polio there last summer.

Russian scientists joined others at the Geneva meeting in praising Americans who made great discoveries about polio in recent years. Thousands of scientists, working in many places outside the United States, have also contributed to the breakthrough against polio. Since 1789, some 15,000 studies have been printed on the subject. The great modern discoveries, though, have been made in recent years, largely by Americans.

There has been great public interest  
(Continued on page 6)

## Malaya Prepares for Independence

British-controlled Region  
Will Acquire Self-Rule  
Later This Month

**W**HAT role will the new nation of Malaya play in world affairs? Will she become a thriving free country and a friend of the western lands? Or will she eventually fall under communist control?

These are some of the questions being asked about the Asian peninsula which, on August 31, is scheduled to join the world family of independent nations. At that time, Great Britain will give up control of the region that in recent years has been the London government's biggest dollar-earner.

For Britain, the action marks another step in its withdrawal from Asia. Near-by areas from which the British have departed include India, Burma, and Ceylon. Though Malaya will be completely independent, she will join the Commonwealth, the loose association of countries that cooperate closely with Great Britain.

For this lush, green peninsula, the ceremonies on August 31 will mean the beginning of a new era. Malaya's leaders, confronted with a variety of problems, are under no illusions that self-rule will automatically make their country a strong nation. But they are counting heavily on the new nation's favorable location and natural wealth as the basis for future stability and prosperity.

**Geography.** The Federation of Malaya is a diamond-shaped country about the size of Florida, extending south from the narrow isthmus which joins it to the southeast corner of Asia. The country's backbone is a jungle-clad mountain range, which runs roughly from north to south, with parallel ridges midway down dividing the coastal plains. In the south is a lowland.

The peninsula is about 700 miles long and varies in width from 45 to 200 miles. About 40,000 of Malaya's 50,000 square miles are covered by a trackless evergreen jungle, where the trees make a solid skyless roof of green 100 feet above the ground, which is often swamp. The only fully cleared parts of the country are the long stretches down the west coast, an area in the north, and some open ground along the rivers.

Joined to the tip of the peninsula by a causeway is Singapore Island. Singapore is a British colony, quite separate from the Malaya Federation, and will remain in British hands.

**History.** For centuries, Malaya was the object of colonial rivalry among the European powers. The Dutch, Portuguese, and British contended for many years for influence on the peninsula  
(Continued on page 2)



# Malayan Nation

(Continued from page 1)

sula at Asia's southeastern corner.

As early as 1592, Britain sent a trading vessel to the Malayan state of Penang. A thriving trade was established, and in 1790, Penang was ceded by a native sultan to the British. Three years later, Britain seized Malacca from the Dutch, and in 1824 got control of the island of Singapore. From these footholds, the British extended their influence over the entire peninsula.

World War II saw the Japanese seize Malaya, but the British returned in 1945. They reorganized the government as a forerunner to granting independence. Malaya's first elections were held in 1955.

**Importance.** Economically and strategically, this small land is of the utmost importance to the western nations. It is the world's largest source of natural rubber, producing almost half the world's supply. Malaya's mines produce about one-third of the global output of tin.

The peninsula's location gives it great strategic value. It lies at an almost equal distance from the great population masses of India and China. Malaya is right in the center of what is potentially one of the world's richest areas. Moreover, it is astride the main sea and air routes to Australia and across the Pacific to the United States. The communists have long looked upon this area as a key region in their plans for dominating Asia.

**People.** Malaya is sometimes called "the melting pot of Asia." The peninsula's 6,500,000 people include several races. Forming the largest single group are the real natives, the Malays. They are a brown-skinned people, akin to the Indonesians.

The Malays live largely by farming and fishing, and hold most of the local government posts. They are the backbone of the police and security forces. Most of the Malays practice the Moslem religion.

Almost as numerous as the Malays are the Chinese. They are traders, rubber planters, manufacturers, and bankers. Some work in the tin mines and on big farm estates. While the Malays hold the country's political power, the Chinese control much of the region's wealth. In religion, they subscribe to Buddhism or to other non-Moslem creeds.



KUALA LUMPUR, capital of Malaya, which becomes fully self-governing and independent of Great Britain on August 31

A considerable number of Indians and Pakistanis have migrated to Malaya. They work largely as laborers on rubber estates, as policemen, and as technicians.

**Communist threat.** Shortly after World War II, native Reds attempted to take over Malaya. Working through trade unions, they tried by legal methods to gain political control. When their civil campaign failed, they turned to violence.

For several years, Malaya erupted in terrorism and jungle warfare. Operating from hideouts in the dense forests, the communists burned property, slashed rubber trees, and murdered government officials, rubber planters, and tin miners.

For a time it seemed that the Reds might succeed in their revolt, but the British and their Malayan allies handled the situation firmly. During the period that Sir Gerald Templer served as High Commissioner of Malaya (1952-54), the tide turned.

Under Templer's direction, many of the communists' sources of food and equipment were cut off. Thousands of communists surrendered, or were killed, captured, or wounded. By

the time Templer finished his term as commissioner, many areas were completely free of terrorism, and the remaining Reds had been driven back into remote jungle areas.

It is estimated that today there are about 2,000 communists holding out in the jungles. At the moment, they do not pose a great threat. Just what they will do, though, when the British give up control of Malaya later this month remains to be seen.

Some think that the Reds are counting on the new government's becoming bogged down in dissension. The communists then may renew their armed aggression. Others think that the Reds may change their tactics now and make a pretense of cooperating with the government, hoping eventually to make a bid for full control of Malaya.

**National spirit.** If the new government is to deal effectively with the communists, it must foster the growth of a unified national spirit on the part of all of Malaya's people. Here the major stumbling block is the long-smoldering animosity between the Malays and the Chinese who make their homes in Malaya.

Many of the Malays resent the extent to which the Chinese have taken over the peninsula's commercial dealings. The Malays feel that they do not play an important enough part in the economic life of the country.

It is also charged that many Chinese—though they may have lived since birth in Malaya—cherish ties of tradition and culture with their ancestral country. They put loyalty to China—it is said—above loyalty to Malaya. In many cases, the Chinese have maintained their own school systems and continued to speak the Chinese language.

The new government is firmly committed to making independent Malaya a partnership among all races. Citizenship has been made available to all who regard Malaya as their real home. Steps are being taken to encourage the Chinese to enter public service, and to encourage the Malays to play a bigger part in their country's economic life.

The problem of developing national spirit is closely linked to that of checking the spread of communism. In general, the Chinese have seemed less hostile to communism than have the Malays. Nearly all of the Red terrorists are of Chinese descent. They have received aid and encouragement from communist China. On the other hand, nearly all the Malays have worked closely with the British in putting down the rebellion.

**Unbalanced economy.** If Malaya is to become stable and prosperous, the nation's economy must be put in better balance. Today, tin and rubber account for 80 per cent of exports. Production of these 2 products supports almost three-fourths of the working population. As long as tin and rubber bring good prices, people prosper, but when prices fall, there is widespread hardship.

Plans are now being made to increase rice and cocoa production. The discovery of bauxite deposits (aluminum ore) may help put a broader base under the economy, and curb the "boom or bust" cycle from which Malaya has long suffered.

**New government.** Under the new setup, there will be a constitutional monarchy with a 2-house legislature. The monarch will be selected by the rulers of the 9 Malay states from among their own number. This office will be rotated every 5 years.

The 2-house legislature will be the main instrument of government. The upper house will consist of 2 members from each state—elected by the state legislatures—as well as 16 members appointed by the head of state to represent sectional or minority interests.

The lower house will have about 100 elected members. Malay will be the country's national language, with English permitted for official purposes for 10 years. Mohammedanism is proclaimed the state religion. (Some observers fear that the selection of a state religion in a country where there are large groups which adhere to other religions may be the source of future tension.)

**Foreign affairs.** The young Asian nation will have close relations with



MALAYA, a peninsula some 700 miles long, has a population of 6,500,000



Great Britain. The way in which the British prepared the Malaysians for self-rule and then voluntarily stepped out has left a warm feeling of friendship toward the former rulers.

As we have already noted, Malaya will join the Commonwealth. The Malayan leaders, recognizing the communist threat, have asked that the British station troops on the peninsula for a time. Britain is also providing \$56,000,000 in financial assistance for the new nation.

Except for its ties with Great Britain, Malaya will probably steer clear of alliances with other countries—at least during its early years. It is unlikely that it will join the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO), the anti-communist defense group to which the United States belongs.

However, Malaya's leaders have had too much experience with the communists to look at them unrealistically. It is significant that the communist nations were not invited to send representatives to the Independence Day ceremonies on August 31.

**Singapore.** Any discussion of the future of Malaya must include mention of Britain's island-colony of Singapore. Though it is politically separate from Malaya, it is of vital importance to the new nation directly to its north. Through its busy port, Singapore handles three-fourths of Malaya's exports.

Singapore also wants self-rule, but talks on the subject between native officials and the British collapsed last year. Britain maintains an important naval-air base in Singapore, and wants to hang on to it. With unsettled political conditions in Singapore, the British are reluctant at this time to loosen their hold on the island.

Most Malays seem to be strongly opposed to self-rule for Singapore, or, as has been suggested, to the addition of this island to the new nation of Malaya. Nearly 80 per cent of Singapore's 1,120,000 people are of Chinese descent. If Singapore should be added to Malaya, Malays would find themselves outnumbered by the Chinese throughout the country.



TIN MINING is an important occupation in the Asian land of Malaya

Whether this island colony eventually will achieve independence remains to be seen. Singapore's future may depend largely on whether or not it can curb the disorders that have troubled the island off and on during recent years. Chinese student groups in which communists have been active have played a prominent part in these disturbances. It has repeatedly been shown that the loyalties of these communists is to Red China rather than to the country in which they reside.

—By HOWARD SWEET

# Ceylon Is Peaceful Tropic Isle

## Asian Nation Nears 10th Anniversary of Independence

WITH its palm trees, coconut groves and lofty mountains, Ceylon is an "isle where every prospect pleases," as the poet wrote. More than most countries in southern Asia, this tropical island off the coast of India is leading a peaceful, reasonably prosperous and contented life.

While farming is the main occupation of Ceylon's 8,200,000 people, an American finds the farming methods quite strange. Dressed in a sarong as his work-a-day costume, the young farmer of Ceylon is quite accustomed to elephants, oxen, and buffalo as work animals.

The elephant is for heavy work, like pulling up a tree stump. The ox is the dray animal, for hauling cart loads of farm produce. The buffalo is for plowing. The 3 animals are easy to train, and they are quite as plentiful in Ceylon as they are scarce in our country.

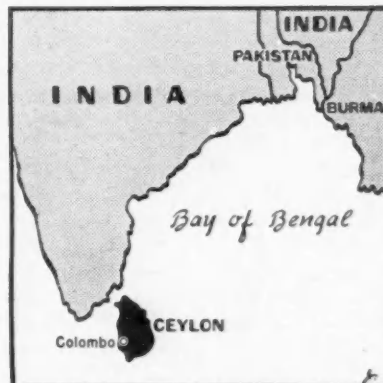
Today the use of farm machinery is beginning to be taught. A number of high school students go to England to learn about tractors and soil improvement. But it will be a long time before Ceylon's work animals are entirely replaced by machinery.

Tea is the big crop but the people seldom drink it themselves, even though they have been growing tea leaves for over 100 years. Most of the tea is exported to Britain. Other exports are rubber and coconut products—the coconut oil for cooking and the dry, cake-like leftover for fodder.

Rice with curry, often on banana

leaves as plates, is Ceylon's favorite meal. Rice is grown on the island and large quantities are imported from other countries. This grain and a variety of fruits assure everyone of enough to eat.

Farming is likely to remain Ceylon's chief means of making a living, but there are signs of change and modern-



CEYLON lies off the coast of India

ization. The government is sponsoring both a farm and an industrial development program.

Extensive forests furnish a basis for light industries. Many cinchona trees are raised. They are cultivated for their bark from which quinine is made. The mountains of Ceylon are rich in gold and graphite. They also have deposits of rubies and many other precious stones.

Ceylon's history dates back many centuries. Buddhism, now one of the chief religions of the island, was introduced there around 200 B.C.

For over 150 years, Ceylon was under British rule. Before that, it belonged to the Dutch. Under these rules, Ceylon's energy was directed to the production of raw materials for industries in the mother nations.

Since 1948 Ceylon has been an independent country and a member of the Commonwealth of Nations, of which Britain is also a member. The British have maintained defense posts on the island, but agreed a few months ago to give them up. The naval base at Trincomalee and the air base at Katunayake are to be handed over to Ceylon this fall. Some British establishments are to remain for up to 5 years. The Ceylonese government is to pay about \$50,000,000 for the military installations it takes over from the British.

The majority of the Ceylonese are from a very ancient race, probably related to the neighboring Indians. Long association with their colonial settlers has given the islanders a western outlook. Dutch type homes are to be found, and British customs are followed by many.

The capital city of Colombo, with a population of about 355,000, is modern with western-style buildings in its newest sections. Highways are excellent throughout the island, though ox carts may slow auto traffic.

## Historical Background - - Famous Quotations

HEROIC deeds and words of the past have always been a cherished part of our history.

It was just 182 years ago that Patrick Henry rose to make what has since proved to be his most famous speech in the legislative hall of colonial Virginia. Virginia, like the other American colonies of the late 1770's, was then trying to decide whether or not to break with the mother country, England, and fight for independence.

There was a slight murmur of voices in the hall as Henry rose. Then he spoke words which became a rallying cry during the War for Independence—words we have cherished ever since:

"Is life so dear, or peace so sweet as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death!"

We remember and cherish many other challenging statements made by famous men during the course of our history. Here are a few of them:

"Stand your ground. Don't fire unless fired upon; but if they mean to have war, let it begin here!" With a firm, determined voice, John Parker gave these instructions to his little band of Minute Men. The men had been hastily assembled to fight the British at Lexington, Massachusetts, April 19, 1775.

"I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country." These words have been an inspiration for Americans ever since they were spoken

by Nathan Hale in 1776. Caught by the British while spying on them for General George Washington, Hale made the stirring statement as he went to the gallows to be hanged.

"I have not yet begun to fight."

Captain John Paul Jones is the author of these words. He commanded an American ship, the *Bonhomme Richard*, in a fight with the British vessel *Serapis*, September 23, 1779.

The *Serapis*, which was much larger and better armed than the *Bonhomme Richard*, called on the American ship to surrender. It was then that Jones shouted back: "I have not yet begun to fight." After a vicious battle, it was the *Serapis* that had to give up.

"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable!" With these words, Daniel Webster, Senator

from Massachusetts, ended a stirring speech calling for all states to work as a team in building up our nation. The address was delivered January 26, 1830, after a few senators had suggested that individual states should be permitted to ignore laws made by Congress if the states considered them to be wrong.

"Sir, I would rather be right than be President." Henry Clay, congressman from Kentucky, made this comment during a speech in 1850 after he was warned that certain of his ideas in favor of a strong national government would kill his chances for becoming President of the country.

"The world must be made safe for democracy. . . . It is a fearful thing to lead this great peaceful people into the most terrible and disastrous of all wars. But the right is more precious than the peace."

President Woodrow Wilson read these words to Congress in the spring of 1917, as he called for a declaration of war against Germany. On April 6 of that year, we entered the war. The fighting came to an end November 11, 1918. Germany was beaten.

"I shall return!" General Douglas MacArthur had these words on his lips when he reluctantly left Corregidor, an island fortress of the Philippines, as Japanese invaders swarmed over nearby areas in 1942. Three years later, General MacArthur returned, leading American troops to victory.

The long list of heroic words and deeds is an inspiration to all of us.

—By ANTON BERLE



PATRICK HENRY, a famous American



# The Story of the Week

## As Summer Ends

In accordance with our usual custom, we are suspending publication of AMERICAN OBSERVER for the remainder of August. The next issue will appear under date of September 9.

## Magna Carta Memorial

The American Bar Association, which held a summer convention in London, has contributed a memorial to the Magna Carta—the great document that fixed some of England's principles of government by law. The principles, laid down in 1215, served also as a guide for government in the early American colonies which grew into the United States.

The memorial is in the form of a small circular temple at Runnymede Meadow in Great Britain, between Windsor and Staines near London.

Near Runnymede, 742 years ago, King John unwillingly accepted limitations on his power at the demand of rebellious barons of his realm.

The exact spot at which the historic document was sealed during the mid-June conference of 1215 has long been disputed by local contenders for the honor, says the National Geographic Society.

One version is that baronial and royal parties assembled on opposite sides of the Thames River, and met on an island for the purpose of affixing the royal seal to the Magna Carta. A cottage built in 1834 on what is now Magna Carta Island contains a stone said to be one on which the parchment lay.

Other authorities, however, say that

King John probably accepted the document at Runnymede Meadow, where the barons, with armed retainers, greeted the king and his followers.

The atmosphere of the scene, contemporary history records, was heavy with tension, fear, and the suppressed fury of the king. For the meeting represented John's capitulation after a bitter, years-long struggle with his nobles.

The basis of the Magna Carta was the "Articles of the Barons," derived from the coronation agreements made by John's great grandfather, Henry I, but repudiated by his successors.

Listed among the Great Charter's provisions were feudal rights and privileges, definitions and limitations concerning the respective spheres of king, nobles, church, courts, merchants, towns, and—more vaguely—benefits to seep down from ruling to dependent groups.

Modern interpreters have often read into the Magna Carta far more liberal principles than the drafters could have imagined. But its guarantees of personal and property rights, and security against extortion and despotism were specific and broad enough to serve as a cornerstone for individual liberties eventually extended to all classes.

King John himself soon renounced his concessions, only to die before the war that ensued could be ended. From then on the charter, with changes and modifications, was frequently reissued and confirmed by England's rulers. Its ideas crossed the ocean to form part of the legal and political heritage of America.

The original Articles of the Barons



IN the Republic of South Korea, pilots and crew chiefs stand at attention before F-86 Sabre jets supplied by the United States. The planes are for training Korean recruits, who will bear a big responsibility in defending their country—should communist North Korea start a new war against the southern republic.

and 4 original copies of the Great Charter of 1215 are still in existence. The articles and 2 of the copies are on display in the British Museum at London. One each of the others belongs to the Lincoln and Salisbury cathedrals in Britain.

## Border Dispute

After 50 years of dispute over a swampy strip of borderland that may contain oil, Honduras and Nicaragua have decided to let the International Court of Justice of the United Nations work out a settlement.

Early this year, Honduras announced she had set up a new state in the disputed area. Nicaragua protested, saying that this was her territory and Honduras had no right to it. Both Latin American countries took their dispute to the Organization of American States, which appointed a committee to investigate.

As a result of the committee's work, Honduras and Nicaragua agreed to withdraw troops they had sent into the territory. Each nation now will have 10 months to present its case to the International Court, which meets in The Hague, the Netherlands.

This is not the first time the border dispute has been considered by a third party. About 50 years ago, the 2 countries asked the then king of Spain to arbitrate the disagreement. In 1906, the king decided that the area should go to Honduras. Nicaragua never accepted the decision.

## Hungarian Refugees

During the rebellion in Hungary last fall against communist rule—a revolt that failed—about 19,500 Hungarians fled to Yugoslavia. Today, around half that number are still living in 19 Yugoslav camps.

The United States is now beginning to admit a number of refugees in the Yugoslav camps—in particular those who have relatives here. Sixty-two already have been flown from Yugoslavia to this country, and the names of additional persons eligible for entry are now being compiled.

A number of countries in addition to the United States have taken Hungarian refugees who first sought

asylum in Yugoslavia. France has admitted 2,002, Belgium 1,558, and Canada 1,071. Australia is taking 2,000. In addition, West Germany has accepted 939, Sweden 594, Switzerland 542, Norway 310, Austria 300, Italy 163, and Israel 156.

Of about 190,000 refugees who escaped into Austria during the Hungarian revolt, the United States has accepted about 30,000.

## U. S. I. A. Cutback

The United States Information Agency is going to concentrate its energies in the year ahead on telling the story of America to communist nations—in particular those which are under the thumb of the Soviet Union. As in the past, *Voice of America*—a division of U. S. I. A.—will broadcast many radio programs in the hope that they will be picked up by people in the Red countries.

U. S. I. A. will reduce the number of television programs, radio broadcasts, motion pictures, magazines, and newspapers provided in the past for distribution in free European nations. Some curtailment is planned also in Far Eastern and Latin American operations.

The federal agency is cutting back services because of limits on expenditures set by Congress. U. S. I. A. operated on a \$113,000,000 budget for the 12-month period which ended June 30. For the 12 months beginning July 1, 1957, and ending next June 30, the agency asked for \$140,000,000. Congress allowed only \$95,000,000, so U. S. I. A. has \$18,000,000 less than last year for expenses.

## Visits to Moscow

Leaders of Iron Curtain countries have been flocking to Moscow to learn what new policies the Soviet Union is planning to pursue. It is possible that there may be some changes in Soviet dealings with the satellites, now that once-powerful officials of the Moscow government have been removed (see AMERICAN OBSERVER, July 22, page 1).

Among those reported to have called on Moscow bosses are Wladyslaw Gomulka, Polish Communist Party chief; Premier Janos Kadar of Hun-



WISH you were there? Beneath the towering Alps, this stylish resort in Austria has 3 swimming pools. One (foreground) is for youngsters, a second (at left) is for vacationing adults, and a third (in background) is a glass-walled, deep tank for able and daring divers.



gary; and Yugoslav vice-presidents Edward Kardelj and Alexander Rankovic. It also is said that Communist Party leaders from Albania and Bulgaria joined in some of the talks between the Yugoslavs and Russians.

Leaders of West Europe's Communist Parties also visited Moscow. Among these have been Jacques Duclos, French communist leader, and an Italian communist delegation.

### This and That

The number of women employes in the federal government has increased 200 per cent from 1939 to 1954, and employment of men has increased 120 per cent in the same period. These facts are set forth in a pamphlet recently issued by the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor. It found that about 25 per cent—522,000—of all government employes were women—among a total of 2,156,920 government workers.

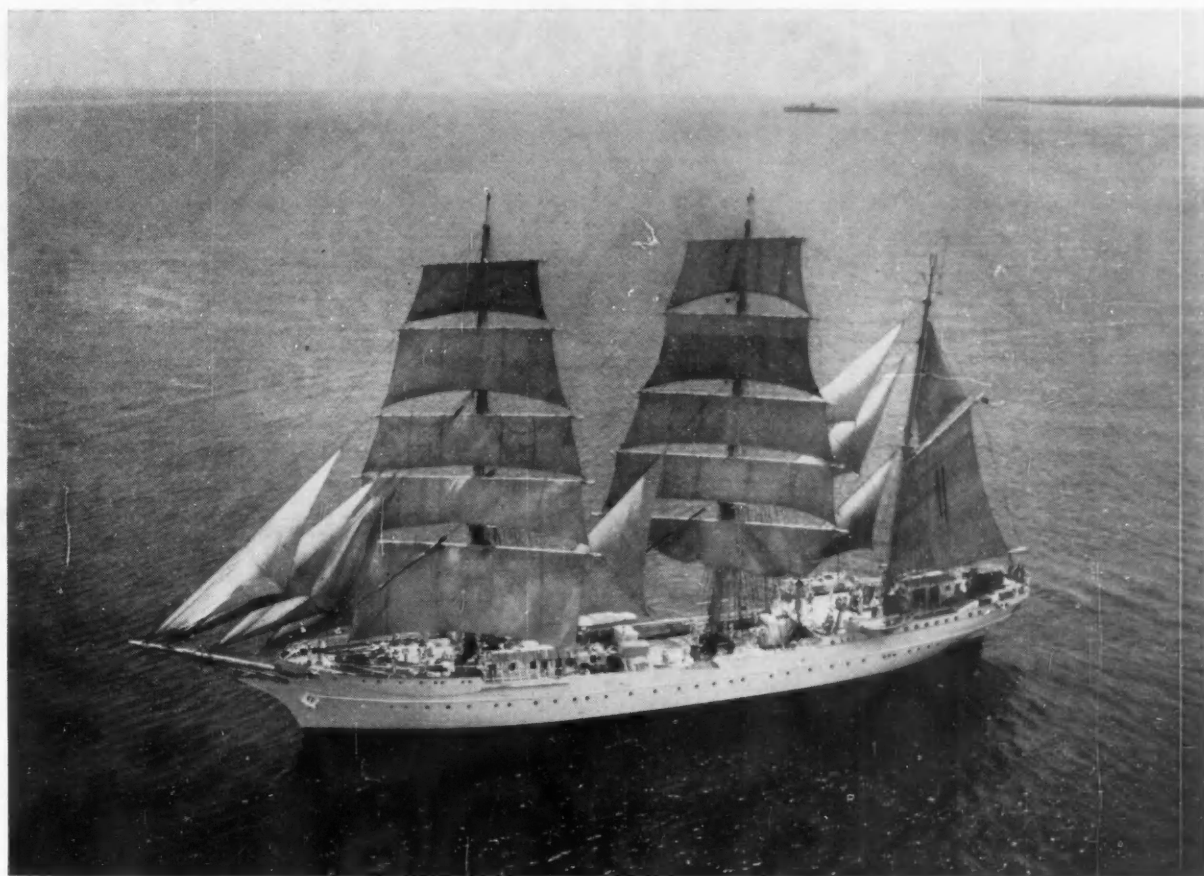
Some 140 foreign air cadets are visiting the United States as guests of the Civil Air Patrol. Representing 20 countries, the young men stopped in New York City for 3 days and then were flown to other parts of the country on 10-day tours. They are visiting Washington before returning home this week.

### Education Bill

On July 25 the House of Representatives, by a vote of 208 to 203, killed the federal aid to education bill, one of the major bills before Congress this session. The tense roll-call vote, which at one point was tied at 200 to 200, was on a motion to strike out the enacting clause. Such a motion has priority over any others and, if carried, kills a bill.

The House vote means that Congress will not approve a school-aid program this session, in spite of President Eisenhower's statements advocating it. Many Democrats were also for federal school aid, and, in fact, both the Republican and Democratic parties endorsed it in their 1956 platforms.

The school-aid bill would have provided \$1,500,000,000 of federal funds



U. S. COAST GUARD training ship, the Eagle, is due home Saturday (August 10) after a 9-week cruise for seasoning cadets. Ports in Britain, Spain, and Norway were visited by the coast guardsmen.

over a 5-year period to assist the states in building new classrooms. Supporters of the bill claimed that federal aid was essential if the states were to overcome a serious classroom shortage. They asserted that—in the fall of 1956—our schools needed 159,000 new classrooms. Without them, it was necessary for 840,000 pupils to attend part-time classes.

States with lower incomes especially needed federal assistance, it was argued, and—since nothing is more important to a nation than the education of its children—the national government should give financial assistance.

Opponents of federal school aid conceded that there had been a serious shortage of classrooms, but claimed that its extent was not nearly so great as pictured. They said that the states and local districts were able to handle the problem, and that they should handle it.

Federal aid to education would lead to federal control of education, opponents said. This would endanger the principle of local responsibility for schools, a principle which has been a great source of strength in our educational system, the anti-aid argument went on.

Some economy-minded Congressmen are reluctant to add to federal spending. They say our national debt and taxes are already too high, and that we cannot increase spending to assist the schools.

As was the case a year ago, when the House killed a federal school-aid bill, the question over aid this time was complicated by another issue—that of segregation in the schools. About an hour before the House killed the bill, an amendment was adopted which would have prohibited the use of federal funds to build schools in districts where public schools were operated in violation of the Supreme Court's anti-segregation decision. Un-

doubtedly this amendment added to the opposition to the bill.

Party lines were split on the close vote which killed the school-aid bill. Voting to kill the bill were 111 Republicans and 97 Democrats; voting to keep the bill alive were 77 Republicans and 126 Democrats.

### Guatemala's Future

Guatemala is preparing for new Presidential elections. If everything goes well in the Central American land, the elections will be held within 4 months or so.

New elections are necessary in Guatemala because the land's former President Carlos Castillo Armas was assassinated late last month by one of his own guards. According to some reports, the assassin was a Red agent who had hoped to bring the communists to power in Guatemala by killing the anti-Red President.

Until a new President is chosen, Guatemala will be governed by Luis Arturo Gonzalez, who formerly held the second-highest government post, after Castillo Armas, in the Central American country. Gonzalez, a close friend of the late President, is also a strong opponent of communism.

The tragic assassination in Guatemala has caused deep concern in the capitals of all Western Hemisphere countries. Officials in these lands are asking such questions as these: How strong are the Reds in Guatemala? Was the assassination of Castillo Armas actually a part of a communist plot to take over the little land? If so, what will be the next move by Guatemala's Reds?

Guatemala, as we know, once had a pro-Red government that was led by Jacobo Arbenz Guzman, who now lives in exile in Uruguay. The Guzman regime was overthrown in a brief revolution in the summer of 1954.

## About Polio

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tions are bad, young children are exposed to all kinds of diseases. Many are exposed to the polio virus and develop an immunity to it.

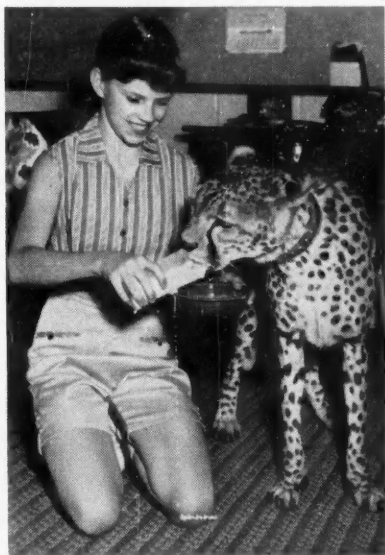
Where hygienic standards are higher, fewer children develop this early immunity. In areas where this is true, infection is apt to be delayed to a later age—when the effects are likely to be severe.

Even in our comparatively fortunate country, a big job remains in providing protection for everyone. There are about 109,000,000 Americans in the age group up to 40 years, the group most susceptible to polio. Of these 109,000,000, an estimated 68,000,000 had received 1 or more shots by July 1 of this year. An intensive campaign in 1957 succeeded in getting 17,000,000 vaccinations in 3½ months. This drive is continuing.

Important polio research is also continuing—to improve polio vaccines, to find out how long vaccinations are effective, and to find less expensive ways of growing polio virus. Monkeys now needed in vaccine manufacture are expensive, even though the National Foundation runs its own monkey farm in South Carolina. Scientists are also experimenting on a different type of vaccine made with live polio virus.

The knowledge which should lead to the eventual conquest of polio may prove highly important to research on other diseases. Many hitherto unknown viruses have been identified. New knowledge of the biology of cells may unlock doors to treatment of other diseases. Some of these, such as cancer, have been far greater enemies to mankind's health and welfare than polio.

—By ERNEST SEEGER



"CAESAR," 140-pound cheetah, enjoys milk furnished by owner Elizabeth Green of Fairlee, Vermont. Elizabeth is well-versed in handling animals. She should be, for her father is a well-known big-game hunter.





AS MORE and more people are vaccinated against polio, the danger of serious epidemics in this country is diminishing

## About Polio

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in polio in this country since an epidemic in 1916. The career of Franklin D. Roosevelt served to crystallize attention to danger of the disease. Roosevelt was stricken by polio in 1921, when he was 39 years old. He fought bravely and made a successful return to normal life, although he remained crippled. He became governor of New York state and was elected President of the United States 4 times.

In 1938, while President, Roosevelt founded the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. Through its "March of Dimes" campaigns, the National Foundation has collected over \$500,000,000 and has unified the fight against polio in this country.

*What is the Salk polio vaccine, and what is the story behind it?*

The Salk vaccine contains 3 types of polio virus, the tiny agent which causes the disease. Viruses are minute disease organisms. They are parasites, depending on living organisms for life and growth. Introduced into the body, the polio virus may attack the nervous system and possibly cause paralysis or death.

To prevent these terrible results, the polio virus itself must be killed by other tiny agents, called antibodies. Antibodies are tiny chemical particles which the body manufactures to protect itself against infection. For each kind of germ now known—scientists say—there is a corresponding antibody specially designed to deal with it.

Most people at some time in their lives have a mild attack of polio, which usually isn't recognized as such and causes no serious damage. Having recovered from such an attack, a person's blood is left with sufficient antibodies to combat future attacks, and thus help to make the person immune from polio. The Salk vaccine—by introducing the polio virus in a very much weakened state—causes the body to produce antibodies which render most people immune from the disease.

Vaccination has long been used for fighting diseases caused by blood-borne viruses, such as smallpox. Dr. Edward Jenner, in 1796, observing that dairymaids who got cowpox were thereafter immune to smallpox, took cow postules and inoculated a small boy. When later exposed to smallpox the boy did not get it, and Jenner was convinced his method worked. It was not at first readily accepted by the public or by doctors, but has now become a routine medical practice. It was long hoped that some such method would conquer polio.

Before 1938, when the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis was organized, certain basic things about polio were understood. It was known that it was an epidemic disease which affected more children than adults. It was known that a child who had recovered from polio was apt to be immune in the future, although there were instances of the same person having the disease twice.

### A Turning Point

It was known that the cause of the disease was a virus. Almost everything else about polio was clouded in mystery in 1938, and the discovery of an effective vaccine seemed remote.

One great problem was how to make a vaccine that was safe. The only known source of polio virus was nerve tissue of laboratory animals, but a vaccine made from nerve tissue was not considered safe.

A great turning point—perhaps the greatest in polio research—came in 1949. In that year, Dr. John Enders and 2 colleagues at Harvard University and the Children's Clinic of Boston found a way to grow polio virus in non-nervous tissue—which was kept alive in test tubes and flasks.

This laboratory discovery cleared the way for the possible manufacture of a safe vaccine in quantity. It also showed that polio virus was not necessarily attracted to nerve cells alone—that it might be carried by the blood.

The question of whether or not polio virus did circulate in the blood was a fundamental one. Prior to 1952, polio virus had been found only

twice in the blood stream of polio patients. Monkeys which could contract the disease were not infected by blood samples from polio patients. For some time, it was felt that polio traveled directly on nerve pathways, rather than in the blood, and would have to be combated accordingly.

In 1952, researchers at Yale University and Johns Hopkins University, Dr. Dorothy Horstmann and Dr. David Bodian, found polio virus circulating for brief periods in the blood of monkeys and chimpanzees. Later, additional evidence was uncovered that polio virus might be present in the blood of human beings prior to the onset of illness. This would be the time for producing antibodies, before the virus attacked the nerve cells.

Such findings fitted in with those of Dr. William Hammon of the University of Pittsburgh. He found in 1952 that gamma globulin, a derivative of human blood, had enough antibodies to give temporary protection.

Another great problem was created in the late 1940's by discoveries that there was more than 1 virus capable of causing polio. Protection from 1 strain might not mean protection from others. The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis supported a large investigation by university laboratories to solve this question.

By 1951, after an expenditure of \$1,190,000 and the testing of 17,500 monkeys, it was determined that there were 3 strains of polio virus. A successful vaccine would have to protect against all 3 types.

The polio puzzle was almost complete. What was still needed was vaccine that would make human bodies create their own antibodies in sufficient numbers to give protection over a long period of time. One material was known which could do this—the polio virus itself. The question was: *How could this be used without causing illness?*

At the University of Pittsburgh, Dr. Jonas Salk and his associates were working on an idea pioneered by scientists at Johns Hopkins University. They treated live polio virus with chemicals which destroyed its ability

to cause disease, but not its ability to stimulate antibody production. The result of their painstaking work, and the climax of the long antipolio struggle, was the Salk vaccine.

The Salk vaccine consists of 3 types of polio virus, treated with a solution to make them harmless. When injected, the vaccine induces the human body to set up its defense against invasion by producing antibodies. Circulating in the blood, these antibodies help to protect the person from future attacks of the polio virus.

*The next big question was: "Is the vaccine effective and is it safe?"*

Dr. Salk said it was, gave the vaccine to his own 3 children, and conducted preliminary tests on thousands of other children. To get a conclusive answer, the vaccine was given to 444,000 school children in the United States during 1954, in probably the greatest field trial in medical history. Comparing the cases of polio contracted among the inoculated children with those among an uninoculated group, the vaccine's effectiveness could be judged.

In April 1955, Dr. Thomas Francis, who was in charge of the trial, announced that the vaccine was safe and from 60 per cent to 90 per cent effective in preventing paralytic polio.

The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis reported in April 1957 that "studies of the vaccine as used in 1956 suggest that when 3 properly spaced injections are given it is at least 90 per cent effective in preventing paralytic polio. Two injections provide shorter term protection of from 75 to 85 per cent."

### The Bad News

The bad news that paralytic polio is increasing on a world-wide basis came from this summer's otherwise optimistic polio congress in Switzerland. Hungary this summer is having its worst recorded epidemic, and serum has been flown there from Canada by special plane. Representatives from Chile, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon and Brazil reported alarming increases. Polio is reported as a new health problem in some countries where it had never appeared extensively before—in the Soviet Union, for example.

Some countries are as yet unable to produce the vaccine, due to lack of funds and facilities. Costa Rica and Panama—to name 2 lands—are now getting vaccine from the United States.

One explanation for the recent rise of polio cases in countries where it was not a problem before may be that polio is a "disease of civilization."

In countries where sanitary condi-

(Concluded on page 5)



DR. JONAS SALK who developed the vaccine now used in fighting polio



## News Quiz

### Malaya

1. What important event is scheduled to take place on August 31?
2. Briefly describe the geography of Malaya.
3. Why is this Asian land so important to the western nations?
4. Explain why Malaya is sometimes called "the melting pot of Asia."
5. How have the British and their Malayan allies met the communist threat?
6. What is the major stumbling block in the growth of national spirit in Malaya?
7. To what extent is Malaya's economy "out of balance"?
8. Describe the structure of the new government.
9. Give some of the reasons why Singapore has not been incorporated in the new nation.

### Discussion

1. Do you think that the communists' chances for dominating southeastern Asia are made better or worse by Britain's decision to grant independence to Malaya? Explain.
2. Do you think it would be in Malaya's best interests to join the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization? Why, or why not?

### The Polio War

1. What discovery in 1949 is sometimes called "the great turning point" in polio research?
2. How do we know that the Salk vaccine is safe and usually effective?
3. Why is it said that the victory over polio is not yet complete?
4. What is the function of antibodies in fighting polio?
5. In what countries has the polio vaccine been used most widely?
6. What was the great contribution of Dr. Jonas Salk in the anti-polio fight?
7. Why is polio sometimes called a "disease of civilization"?
8. How did the American public join the campaign against polio?
9. How was the work of Dr. Edward Jenner related to the fight against polio?

### Discussion

1. Are great public campaigns, such as "The March of Dimes", still needed in the United States to raise money to fight disease? Why, or why not?
2. Should everyone in the United States up to 40 years of age be compelled by law to have polio vaccinations? What would be the advantages or disadvantages of this?

### Miscellaneous

1. How long has Ceylon been an independent nation? What important tie has Ceylon kept with Britain, her former ruler?
2. What new device will greatly speed the making of charts for air navigation?
3. Who was President Carlos Castillo Armas? What important political questions were raised by his assassination?
4. In what countries is the U. S. Information Agency cutting down its activities? Why is this curtailment necessary?
5. Of the 19,500 Hungarians who fled for refuge into Yugoslavia last fall, about how many are still living there? What countries have so far accepted more of this group than the United States?
6. What group of people forced King John of England to grant the Magna Carta in the year 1215?
7. What major bill concerning schools was recently killed by the U. S. House of Representatives? How do you explain the defeat of this bill?
8. Of the total of 2,156,920 federal government employees, about what percent are women?
9. What 2 Central American countries are taking their 50-year border dispute to the International Court of Justice? Why is the disputed land held important?



THE SUN generates power to run a radio concealed in this U. S. Army helmet. With the radio, a soldier can easily receive orders while on duty.

## Science in the News

While most of us are trying to keep cool this summer, scientists in Alaska are searching for ways to help men survive in extremely cold weather.

Special tests are being carried on at the Arctic Aeromedical Laboratory near Fairbanks. One project is the study of a pill designed to increase resistance to cold. The pill contains glycine, an amino-acid which causes the body to generate more heat than it would normally produce. It is hoped that the use of this pill will enable men to stay alive longer in icy water, and that it will hasten the warming of those chilled to the critical point by exposure.

So far, volunteers have taken the pill without ill effect. If the tests prove successful, the pill may be included in survival kits for service men.

In other work, the scientists are seeking to learn why some ethnic groups seem more able than others to withstand exposure to cold. Eskimos are among the groups under study. No evidence has yet been found to indicate that Eskimos are better equipped physically for cold weather than other people. The Eskimos' ability to endure cold seems to be due to acquired skills and to well-adapted diets and clothing.

★

A magnetometer which greatly speeds up the process of detailed mapping is being used to chart Canada's Ontario and Quebec provinces. With the new device, the project will require less than 2 months to complete. Ground forces would have had to be in the field for 100 years to gather the information desired.

The magnetometer, carried by plane, picks up and records the strength and direction of the earth's magnetic field from the surface below. The recordings pass through a bank of electronic computers, which give instant readings in the form of numbers and graphs.

The information compiled is to be placed on navigation charts for use by aircraft navigators in determining their true positions.

The magnetometer, which weighs half a ton, was designed and built between 1950 and 1952. The invention was not announced until recently because some of the secret equipment is similar to that used in guided missiles and automatic navigation devices for aircraft.

Caesarea, once the largest city in ancient Palestine, is being reclaimed from the desert. In recent years, archeologists have uncovered statues, mosaic streets, and the ruins of splendid buildings.

King Herod the Great, of Biblical fame, founded Caesarea about 30 B. C. and named it for his patron, Augustus Caesar. Herod chose a strategic location on the Mediterranean Sea Coast about 55 miles northwest of Jerusalem.

About 250,000 people lived in Herod's Caesarea. The city was famous for its beauty, fine fruit orchards, and an oval hippodrome which seated 20,000 spectators. Aqueducts brought fresh water from a nearby river. A fine harbor was constructed by sinking stones 120 feet under the sea to form a breakwater.

Caesarea was a chief outpost of the Roman Empire. It is believed that Christ and St. Paul visited the city. For a long time, it was a principal seat of the Christian Church.

In the 12th century, Caesarea was a base for the Crusaders. It was finally destroyed in 1265.

After its destruction, the shifting desert sands buried the beautiful city. Now, archeologists are studying its ruins to learn more about ancient life.

—By ALICE HAYWOOD



SCIENTIST Paul Fields (left) of Chicago talks with Swedish Consul General Goesta Oldenburg about discovery of the new element 102. Fields worked with a team of American, British, and Swedish scientists to find the element (see *American Observer*, July 22, page 7). The plan is to call it Nobelium, in honor of the Nobel Institute for Physics in Stockholm, where the research was carried out.

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